

# Salt Lake City

## Sister Cities Board Meeting

Room 126, 451 S. State Street

July 17, 2013

*This document along with the digital recording constitute the official minutes of the Sister Cities Board regular meeting held on July 17, 2013.*

The meeting was called to order on Wednesday, July 17 at 5:00 pm in Room 126 of the City and County Building, located at 451 S. State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Board members in attendance included Chairperson Anne Erickson, Vice-Chairperson Karen Wiley, Rosemary Holt, Jinger LaGuardia, Nicole Gallo, Margaret Yee, Olga Efimova, Jorge Arce-Laretta. Staff members in attendance Sara Hiatt, Sister Cities Coordinator. Visitors: Utah Sister Cities Coalition Representative Jennifer Andelin, and Tomoko Moses.

### **Chairperson Anne Erickson Welcome** [5:10:44 PM](#)

### **Review & Approval of Minutes** [5:14:05 PM](#)

Recorded minutes from June 5, 2013 board conveyance requested. Jorge Arce-Laretta moved to approve minutes. Motion seconded. Motion approved.

### **Matsumoto 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Updates** [5:18:50 PM](#)

Tomoko reported 125 people are registered to attend the Matsumoto 55<sup>th</sup> Banquet in Salt Lake City. 27 Japanese guests will be attending, not including the Japanese student participants. She received the Matsumoto gift for Mayor Ralph Becker. Theme of the events is "Into the Future." Japanese guests arrive July 21, some staying in home stays and some in hotels. Tomoko shared the calendar of events for Japanese guests. Mayor Sugeno is presenting a lecture on his experience in Chernobyl. Several Japanese guests will ride in parade, others will wait in the bleachers. Japanese American Citizens League will host a luncheon after the parade. Guests leave Salt Lake City on July 25, 2013.

### **Keelung 34th Anniversary Updates** [5:28:50 PM](#)

Next year is the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary and they would like to do a bigger event. This year three police representatives, including the Chief of Police, are visiting for the grand opening of Salt Lake City's Public Safety Building. They will be in Salt Lake City and Yellowstone July 17 – July 25. After the parade on the 24<sup>th</sup> the Sister Cities committee is invited to attend a luncheon at the International Peace Gardens (approx 11am). The Keelung representatives will be riding in cars behind the Chinese Association's float. Sara Hiatt noted the Sister Cities website crashed over the weekend, erasing the calendar of events

### **Karen Wiley Update on Sister Cities International Conference** [5:36:20 PM](#)

Karen Wiley attended the Sister Cities International Conference in July 2013. She handed out the attached summary – [click here](#). Updates included the stress that Sister Cities should be the ones to open doors for companies, government offices, and community groups wanting to do international projects. Regular programming and events in the local communities keep Sister Cities in prominence.

Communication with our Sister Cities should be regular. Websites need to be updated regularly, and technology needs to be capitalized on. Sister Cities should be partnering with Chambers of Commerce, have press-ready materials, work with media and other outlets. Sister Cities staff and volunteers need to be aware of cultural assets and learn to leverage them. Karen Wiley made pamphlets and information packets collected at the conference available for anyone interested in viewing.

#### **Elections for Chair & Vice Chair 6:08:30 PM**

Karen Wiley, Etsuko Freeman, and Jinger LaGuardia were nominated as Chairperson. Jinger LaGuardia declined. Karen Wiley was voted as Chairperson via ballot vote.

Jinger LaGuardia was nominated as Vice-Chairperson. Jinger LaGuardia was voted via ballot vote.

#### **Utah Coalition of Sister Cities Update 6:17:14 PM**

The purpose of the Utah Coalition of Sister Cities is meant to connect various Utah Sister Cities programs. Jennifer Andelin requested frequent event updates so she can keep a central database of events. The next coalition event will be in March 2014. Many cities are planning for form new partnerships, which is opportunity for collaboration among Utah cities. State-wide Sister Cities need to be in contact and a part of all international events, meetings, and communications.

#### **Individual City Updates 6:29:30 PM**

**Izhevsk** – Olga Efimova requested budget to send a donation of keyboards to Izhevsk. Sara Hiatt said we need to wait until the next meeting to decide budget information based on the transition of the Sister Cities program from Housing & Neighborhood Development to Community & Economic Development.

**Torino** – Jinger LaGuardia updated the group on Ferragosta event in August 2013 and requested a proclamation from the Mayor's Office. Jinger displayed certificates of appreciation to the board and suggested the group does them as a standard presentation. They have created a Facebook account that has been successful. Jinger requested getting copies of the annual report for state audit requirements.

**Keelung** - Margaret Yee announced August 17 is the International Peace Garden celebration 12-5pm

**Chernivsti** – Rosemary Holt wants to add discussion of visitation from the Chernivsti Mayor's Office.

**Trujillo** – Jorge Arce-Larreta requested promotion of the Trujillo relationship to official Sister City relationship. Jorge will be gone in September but would like to be added to the next available meeting.

#### **Next Board Meeting**

August 21, 2013 is the requested date, with August 28<sup>th</sup> as the alternative.